

REMARKS

The purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to eliminate multiple dependent claims in order to avoid the additional fee. Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce claims to canceled combined subject matter.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version With Markings to Show Changes Made**".

Respectfully submitted,

  


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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

Claims 3 to 6, 8 and 9 were amended as follows:

3. (Amended) Process according to Claims 1 ~~and 2~~, characteriszed in that the process is continuous.
4. (Amended) Process according to Claims 1 ~~to 3~~, characteriszed in that
  - a) the aromatic or heteroaromatic compound is firstly derivatised,
  - b) the resultant derivative is dissolved in a solvent and
  - c) nitrated in a micromixer using a nitrating reagent, and
  - d) the nitrated product is isolated from the resultant solution.
5. (Amended) Process according to ~~one or more of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 4~~, characteriszed in that the nitrated product is separated off from the reaction mixture by extraction with a solvent.
6. (Amended) Process according to ~~one or more of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 5~~, characteriszed in that the reaction mixture flows through the microreactor at an adequate flow rate of from 1  $\mu$ l/min to 10ml/min, and the reaction is carried out at a temperature in the range from -40 to 150°C, with the course of the reaction being monitored by gas chromatography.
8. (Amended) Process according to Claims 4 ~~to 7~~, characteriszed in that an aromatic or heteroaromatic compound is converted into a carbamate in a first reaction step.-
9. (Amended) Process for the nitration of aromatic or heteroaromatic compounds selected from the group consisting of toluene, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline, N-methoxycarbonyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline and benzofuran derivatives according to ~~one or more of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 8~~.